## 7 VAGINAL FLUID ANALYSIS GENERAL DOCUMENTATION AND EVIDENCE HANDLING REQUIREMENTS – FORENSIC BIOLOGY SECTION PROCEDURE MANUAL, SECTION I Effective Date: 1-October-2006

## 7 VAGINAL FLUID ANALYSIS

- 7.1 There are no tests available to conclusively identify the presence of vaginal fluid. However, its presence may be inferred on those items for which a reasonable person would infer that vaginal fluid would be present, e.g., on vaginal swabs, female victim's underpants, etc.
- 7.2 Although it is not possible to conclusively identify the presence of vaginal fluid, it may be probative to a case to conduct DNA PCR-based typing on items believed to contain vaginal fluid.
- 7.3 Working with only one item at a time to avoid sample mix-up and/or contamination, examine the item for stains. An alternate light source (ALS) and/or ultra-violet (UV) light may aid in the location of stains believed to contain vaginal fluid. Describe the item and the appearance, size, and location of the stains. Diagrams and/or photographs may be helpful.
- EXAMPLE 1: A condom is left in a wooded area where an alleged sexual assault occurred. Identifying the DNA profile of biological material on the outer surface of the condom consistent with the victim's profile may help to substantiate the victim's story and/or help define the location of the event.
- EXAMPLE 2: An alleged sexual assault has occurred, but no semen is identified on evidence from the victim. A Physical Evidence Recovery Kit from the suspect (collected within 24 hours of the alleged incident) contains pubic area swabs and underpants from the suspect. Identifying a DNA profile foreign to the suspect's profile and consistent with the victim's profile on either or both of these items may be probative if the suspect denies any sexual contact with the victim.
  - 7.4 If appropriate, examine stain(s) for possible mixtures of physiological fluids (blood, urine, semen and/or feces), and record and report results.
  - 7.5 As appropriate, conduct DNA PCR-based typing.
    - 7.5.1 Conduct DNA PCR-based typing, record results, and report results and conclusions after comparing the profile(s) obtained to the appropriate known sample profiles.
    - 7.5.2 Conduct DNA PCR-based typing, record results, report results in the absence of the alleged perpetrator's known or other appropriate known samples, and request the submission of appropriate known samples.
  - 7.6 If appropriate, forward evidence to another section for analysis.

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7.7 Return evidence to the primary examiner or to security for final disposition.		
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		VEND